Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. No claims have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-24 are presented for examination.

Claims 1-4, 11-12 and 15-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chemla (U.S. Patent No. 5,805,403). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over Chemla.

Chemla discloses a temperature monitoring and protection system having a plurality of integrated circuits located on a printed circuit board. Each integrated circuit includes an external temperature sensor. For instance, multiple ICs each have a temperature sensor (TS) thermally coupled to them. Each TS incorporates a temperature sensor and associated circuitry necessary to output a signal readable by a processor. The output of each TS is input to the processor. The processor also generates a reset line for each integrated circuit. Alternatively, the reset lines can be shared as one common line. Heat given off by each IC is sensed by the TS and a signal proportional to the temperature is input to the processor. The processor receives as input the outputs of each TS. The processor is suitably programmed to monitor each TS. If over temperature protection is desired then when the temperature of any of the ICs exceed a predetermined temperature, the processor is operative to shut down a clock signal output from clock generator circuitry. Alternatively, the processor is operative to hold the integrated circuit in reset. If required, a crystal oscillator provides the raw frequency source for clock generator circuitry 20. See Chemla at Figure 2 and col. 4, ll. 49 – col. 5, ll. 5.

Claim 1 of the present application recites a first IC that simultaneously transmits the state of each of a plurality of signals not associated with an interface to a second IC in-band via the interface each time that a change in the state of one of the plurality of signals is detected. Applicant submits that nowhere in Chemla is there disclosed such a feature. Instead, Chemla discloses a processor that receives TS signals from a plurality of ICs, and that transmits a signal to disable a clock generator upon detecting a TS signal that exceeds a predetermined temperature. Nonetheless, such a feature is not equivalent to a first IC simultaneously transmitting a state of a plurality of signals to a second IC each time that there is a change in the state of one of the plurality of signals. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over Chemla.

Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1 and include additional features. Thus, claims 2-10 are also patentable over Chemla.

Claim 11 recites transmitting the state of each of a plurality of signals in-band across an interface to a second IC each time that a change in the state of one of the plurality of signals is detected. For the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 11 is also patentable over Chemla. Because claims 12-14 depend from claim 11 and include additional features, claims 12-14 are also patentable over Chemla.

Claim 15 recites a chipset that simultaneously transmits the state of each of a plurality of signals not associated with an interface to an IC in-band via the interface each time that a change in the state of one of the plurality of signals is detected. Accordingly, for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 15 is also patentable over Chemla. Because claims 16-24 depend from claim 15 and include additional features, claims 16-24 are also patentable over Chemla.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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